

Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-10

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

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R 140056Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5596

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 3431

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, TW, CH

SUBJECT: PARTY PUNDIT SPEAKS ON WORLD SITUATION AND US/ROC
RELATIONS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: TAIPEI 2388 (NOTAL)

1. ON JUNE 2ND, CHEN YU-CHING (7115/5940/3237), DIRECTOR,
DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS AFFAIRS, KMT CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS,
DISCUSSED THE CURRENT WORLD SITUATION AT THE KMT WEEKLY
SUN YAT-SEN MEMORIAL MEETING IN TAIPEI. ON JUNE 10, CHEN
REPEATED SOME OF THE SAME THEMES IN KA SPEECH TO LOCAL PARTY
OFFICIALS. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY
CHEN PROBABLY REPRESENT THE CURRENT OFFICIAL PUBLIC GROU-
P LINE ON TRENDS IN USCHINA POLICY.

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2. TAKING NOTE OF THE RESOLUTE U.S. ACTION IN THE MAYAGUEZ

AFFAIR, THE REITERATION OF U.S. DEFENSE COMMITMENTS IN ASIA AND EUROPE, AND CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT ACTIONS, CHEN EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THESE EVENTS, AFTER THE FALL OF INDO-CHINA, REFLECTED THE FACT THAT THE U.S. WILL NO LONGER TOLERATE COMMUNIST EXPANSION. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE DIFFICULTIES FACING THE U.S. IN ITS EFFORTS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH THE PRC ARE INCREASING, WHILE US/ROC RELATIONS ARE BEING STRENGTHENED.

3. CHEN NOTED THAT MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE HAVE RECOMMENDED THAT PRESIDENT FORD CANCEL HIS VISIT TO PEKING. WHETHER HE WOULD GO WAS STILL UNDECIDED. HE ADDED THAT EVEN IF THE U.S. HAS TO IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH THE PRC TO COUNTER THE USSR, THERE IS NO REASON FOR THE U.S. TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AT THE EXPENSE OF THE ROC.

4. CHEN ALSO CRITICIZED RECENT EFFORTS BY SOUTHEAST ASIAN STATES TO "NEUTRALIZE" THAT AREA: MALAYSIA HAD ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH THE PRC AND THIS HAD ONLY ENCOURAGED THE MALAYSIAN COMMUNISTS. CHEN BELIEVED PHILIPPINE RECOGNITION WAS "INEVITABLE" BUT WAS FAR FROM CERTAIN WHETHER THAILAND WOULD GO ALL THE WAY.

5. ADMITTING THAT THE ROC MAY SUFFER DIPLOMATIC REVERSES FROM THE "COMMUNIZATION" OF INDO-CHINA, CHEN SAID THE OVERALL SITUATION WILL HAVE MORE ADVANTAGE THAN DISADVANTAGE FOR THE ROC BECAUSE THE STRATEGIC AND POLITICAL POSITION OF TAIWAN IS NOW MORE OBVIOUS. IN CONCLUSION, HE NOTED THAT WASHINGTON'S "WAR PHOBIA" WAS GRADUALLY DISAPPEARING AND WAS NO LONGER A MAJOR OBSTACLE FOR U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. HE SUGGESTED THE STRUGGLE BETWEEN FREEDOM AND COMMUNISM WILL "ENTER A NEW ERA AND THERE WILL BE NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE WORLD'S ANTI-COMMUNIST STRENGTH."

6. COMMENT: AS DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS AFFAIRS, KMT HEADQUARTERS, CHEN SPEAKS WITH SOME AUTHORITY. HIS ORIGINAL SPEECH WAS CARRIED IN THE CHUNG YANG JIH PAO SUGGESTING AN EFFORT TO GIVE WIDE PUBLICITY TO HIS REMARKS.

7. AS NOTED REFTEL THERE ARE VARYING VIEWS IN TAIPEI
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CONCERNING US/ROC RELATIONS IN THE POST-VIETNAM ERA. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CHEN'S SPEECH WAS AN EFFORT TO CLEARLY ESTABLISH THE PARTY (AND NO DOUBT GOVERNMENT) LINE. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS SPEECH IN MANY ASPECTS DOES NOT REFLECT THE ACTUAL VIEWS OF THE LEADERSHIP. IT CONTAINS A LOT OF WISHFUL THINKING. AS STATED REFTEL WE EXPECT THE GROC TO CONTINUE TO PLAY UP ITS CONFIDENCE IN THE RELIABILITY OF THE US COMMITMENT TO TAIWAN AND

THE CONSTANCY OF US SUPPORT FOR THE ROC. AT THE SAME TIME, IT
WILL PUSH THE THEME OF SELF-RELIANCE AS PART OF THE PUBLIC
CONDITIONING PROCESS IN PREPARATION FOR THE EVENTUAL NORMA-
LIZATION OF U.S. RELATIONS WITH THE PRC IF AND WHEN IT COMES.

8. COPY OF ARTICLE BEING POUCHED. UNGER

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